

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAKAR 01859 01 OF 02 110920Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-12 EB-08 TRSE-00 COME-00 IO-13
/114 W

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R 101640Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3201
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 DAKAR 1859

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, OAU, XA, LY
SUBJECT: ATMOSPHERICS AT OAU MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE IN TRIPOLI

REF: TRIPOLI 339

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PAGE 02 DAKAR 01859 01 OF 02 110920Z

1. SUMMARY: HEAD OF ZAIRE DELEGATION TO TRIPOLI OAU
MINISTERIAL REPORTS CANARIES RESOLUTION DRAFTED BY
LIBERATION COMMITTEE WAS ADOPTED BY MINISTERS WITHOUT
DISCUSSION TO PUNISH SPAIN FOR REFUSING TO ACCEPT OAU
FACT-FINDING VISIT. INTERNAL SETTLEMENT IN RHODESIA
WAS SUBJECT OF CONSIDERABLE DEBATE; LIBERIA, UGANDA,
GHANA, NIGERIA AND ZAIRE WERE AMONG THOSE WHO URGED,

FOR VARIOUS REASONS, THAT OAU RESERVE JUDGMENT ON ZIMBABWE QUESTION. KNOMO HAS ASKED FOR MEETING WITH MOBUTU TO ASSURE HIM " I AM NOT A COMMUNIST." ALGERIANS MADE SURE WESTERN SAHARA WAS WIDELY DISCUSSED, DESPITE ITS ABSENCE FROM AGENDA, ULTIMATELY PUSHING THROUGH RESOLUTION CALLING FOR EXTRAORDINARY SUMMIT IN KHARTOUM PRIOR TO REGULAR SUMMIT. END SUMMARY.

2. TO SUPPLEMENT INFORMATION CONTAINED REFTTEL, WE ASKED ZAIRE AMBASSADOR TO SENEGAL KALONJI TO COMMENT ON POLITICAL RESOLUTIONS THAT CAME OUT OF RECENT OAU MINISTERIAL HELD IN TRIPOLI. KALONJI WAS HEAD OF ZAIRE'S DELEGATION IN THE ABSENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTER UMBA.

3. CANARY ISLANDS:
KALONJI SAID THERE WAS ABSOLUTELY NO DEBATE ON THE RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE CANARY ISLANDS INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT. THE RESOLUTION WAS WRITTEN IN AN AD HOC SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE LIBERATION COMMITTEE. SINCE HE HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS, HE TOOK HIS LEAD FROM MOROCCO AND MAURITANIA WHICH HAD THE MOST DIRECT INTEREST. SINCE THOSE TWO DELEGATIONS SAID NOTHING, ZAIRE KEPT QUIET ALSO. (WE NOTE THAT HIS ACCOUNT OF MOROCCAN AND MAURITANIAN POSITIONS DIFFERS FROM MOST OTHER
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PAGE 03 DAKAR 01859 01 OF 02 110920Z

REPORTS, INCLUDING THAT CONTAINED REFTTEL.)

KALONJI SAID THE RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED WITHOUT DISCUSSION BECAUSE THE SUBJECT HAD BEEN ON THE LIBERATION COMMITTEE AGENDA FOR TEN YEARS, AND BECAUSE SPAIN HAD REFUSED TO ACCEPT AN OAU DELEGATION THAT WANTED TO VISIT MADRID AND THE CANARIES TO OBTAIN FIRST HAND INFORMATION. IN EFFECT, THE RESOLUTION WAS DESIGNED TO PUNISH SPAIN FOR ITS REFUSAL.

AFTER THE RESOLUTION BECAME PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE, SPARKS STARTED FLYING BECAUSE OF MADRID'S EXPLOSIVE DIPLOMATIC REACTIONS. KALONJI SAID HE RECEIVED A BLAST TELEGRAM FROM HIS FOREIGN MINISTER REQUESTING AN EXPLANATION AS TO WHY HE DISREGARDED INSTRUCTIONS. HE REPLIED THAT HE HAD NEVER RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS. KALONJI'S CONCLUSION: ANOTHER EMBARRASSING SITUATION CAUSED BY UNQUESTIONING ACCEPTANCE OF THE WORK OF OAU SUB-COMMITTEES WHICH ARE EASILY CONTROLLED BY WELL-ORGANIZED MANIPULATORS LIKE ALGERIA.

4. ZIMBABWE

KALONJI SAID THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE DEBATE ON THE RE-SOLUTION CONDEMNING THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT. THE ZAIRE DELEGATION ARGUED THAT THE OAU HAS NEVER REFUSED TO ACCEPT NEGOTIATIONS WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY SUPPORTING ARMED STRUGGLE. THE TWO ARE COMPLETELY IN KEEPING WITH OAU PHILOSOPHY REPRESENTED BY THE LUSAKA AND DAR ES SALAAM DECLARATIONS.

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PAGE 01 DAKAR 01859 02 OF 02 110934Z
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 DAKAR 1859

THE UGANDAN DELEGATION ARGUED THAT BY CONDEMNING THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT OUTRIGHT, THE AOU WOULD BE MAKING THE SAME MISTAKE IT MADE ON THE SUBJECT OF DJIBOUTI. FOR YEARS, THE OAU SUPPORTED THE EXTERNAL INDEPENDENCE

MOVEMENTS ONLY TO FIND THAT THE INTERNAL NATIONALIST
LEADERSHIP WERE ABLE TO TAKE POWER THROUGH NEGOTIA-
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PAGE 02 DAKAR 01859 02 OF 02 110934Z

TIONS.

THE GHANA DELEGATION ASKED THAT THE OAU KEEP AN OPEN
MIND SINCE IT DID NOT EVEN HAVE ALL THE DETAILS OF THE
INTERNAL SETTLEMENT. THE LIBERIANS ASKED THAT THE
ENTIRE DISCUSSION BE PUT OFF TO THE KHARTOUM SUMMIT.

NIGERIA FOREIGN MINISTER GARBA FIRST ARGUED THAT THE
RESOLUTION REFLECTED THE OAU'S TENDENCY TO PASS
RESOLUTIONS THAT COULD NOT BE CARRIED OUT. BUT AS THE
DEBATE CAME TO A CLOSE HE SAID "THE OAU HAS ENACTED SO
MANY INAPPLICABLE RESOLUTIONS, ONE MORE CAN'T DO ANY
HARM."

KALONJI CLAIMED SENEGAL'S DELEGATION HAD TAKEN
SURPRISINGLY HARD LINE POSITION ON ZIMBABWE;
SENEGALESE HAD OPPOSED LANGUAGE "REJECTING" INTERNAL
SETTLEMENT, PROPOSED INSTEAD THAT OAU "CONDEMN" IT.

KALONJI SAID THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE CORRIDOR ACTIVITY
BY THE ZIMBABWE NATIONALIST GROUPS. NKOMO ASKED HIM TO
ARRANGE A MEETING WITH MOBUTU. NKOMO SAID, "I WANT TO
TALK TO MOBUTU AND TELL HIM THAT I AM NOT A COMMUNIST".
KALONJI ASKED NKOME WHY HE DID NOT NEGOTIATE WITH
MUZOREWA AND SITHOLE. NKOMO SAID HE HAD NOTHING AGAINST
MUZOREWA -- "HE IS MY CREATION AND REPRESENTS NOTHING."
BUT HE SAID HE COULD NEVER WORK WITH "THAT TRAITORZ
SITHOLE.

5. WESTERN SAHAR:

THE WESTERN SAHARA PROBLEM WAS NOT ON ANY AGENDA, BUT
ALGERIA MADE SURE THAT IT WAS DISCUSSED MORE THAN ANY
OTHER SUBJECT. WHEN THE GABONESE PRESENTED AN ESTIMATE
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PAGE 03 DAKAR 01859 02 OF 02 110934Z

OF EIGHT MILLION DOLLARS AS THE COST OF A SPECIAL
SUMMIT IN LIBREVILLE, THE ALGERIANS ARRANGED FOR THE
BUDGET COMMITTEE TO COME UP WITH AN ESTIMATE OF ONE
MILLION DOLLARS. ALGERIA THEN STARTED TO LOOK FOR AN
ALTERNATE SITE. KALONJI SAID THIS IDEA WAS VOTED DOWN
AS AN AFFRONT TO PRESIDENT BONGO, THE PRESIDENT PRO-
TEM OF THE OAU. FINALLY, ALGERIA PUSHED THROUGH A

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY SUMMIT IN
KHARTOUM TO TAKE PLACE NEXT JULY TWO DAYS IN ADVANCE OF
THE REGULAR SUMMIT& KALONJI'S REACTION OF THE EXTRA-
ORDINARY SUMMIT IS THAT ALGERIA WILL PROBABLY HAVE THE
UPPER HAND. HE SAID THAT, THOUGH THE MAJORITY OF THE
OAU DOES NOT SUPPORT POLISARIO, THEY WILL PROBABLY BE
PASSIVE, WHILE THE MINORITY THAT SUPPORTS POLISARIO
WILL, OF COURSE, MAKE A LOT OF NOISE CALLING FOR SELF-
DETERMINATION. WHO CAN BE AGAINST SELF-DETERMINATION?
COHEN

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